



Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Information about you that will be shared with your GP

The judge has determined that you pose a risk of harm to a child or children and that this fact should be recorded on your GP record.

You have been given this information sheet because the Family Court has decided that you pose a risk of harm to a child or children and that this fact should be recorded on your GP record with a request that if you are known to be caring for a child in future, a referral is made to Children's Social Care to ensure the safety of that child.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why is this being done?

The reason is that some adults who have previously harmed a child will go on to harm another child in the future. The recording of the court's decision in your GP record will prompt your GP to refer to Children's Social Care if they are aware that you are caring for or coming into regular contact with another child to ensure that child is safe.

Can I object?

As part of the court process, you or your legal representative, if you have one, will be notified by the Local Authority legal team if they intend to apply for an entry to be made on your GP record.

Only the Judge can make this order. You will be entitled to object to the entry being made on your GP records. The Judge will listen to any objection you make however may still make the order. You might be able to appeal the Judge's decision. You are advised to seek independent legal advice from a solicitor or barrister who specialises in family court proceedings.

What information will be shared?

The Judge will decide exactly what information should be sent to your GP. It is likely to be that the Judge has decided that you pose a risk of harm to a child or children. It may include a decision by the Judge that you are unsafe to care for a child or come into regular contact with a child or children. Your GP will be informed that the court has decided that this information should be recorded on your GP record. If you are subsequently known to have caring responsibility for a child, your GP should contact Children's Social Care so that they can undertake a risk assessment.

Children's Social Care would always be able to supply further information if required. (This would have to be obtained from the Local Authority where the order was made).

Does it mean that I can never care for a child?

No, it does not mean that you can never care for a child. Children's Social Care is likely to undertake a risk assessment and that will establish whether the child is safe or not in your care.

How long would the information be kept in the GP record?

The information would not be removed, but if Children's Social Care had assessed that you were now safe to care for a child, the record would indicate that there was no longer a cause for concern.

Will I be made aware if my GP contacts local children's services?

You should be informed unless doing so would cause unacceptable delay or risk a child being harmed.

Who would be able to see the information?

Anyone in your GP practice who is involved in providing care for you would be able to see the information.

Will the information be shared with anyone outside the practice?

The information forms part of your record and should be confidential in the same way as the rest of your record.

Would the information be visible to employers seeking occupational assessment, Department of Work and Pensions reports or insurance companies via a subject access request?

Information shared for a DWP or insurance report should only include information requested and relevant and GPs have a duty to follow data protection laws. An occupational assessment that includes suitability to work with children should include an enhanced DBS check. Additional information held by the police about a ruling in the family court may be disclosed as relevant to the check.